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NASHVILLE—The state unemployment rate for April was 5.3 percent, down from the March rate of 5.7 percent, Tennessee Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner Michael E. Magill announced today. The U.S. rate for April increased from 5.7 percent to 6.0 percent.

“Tennessee’s rate continues a long stretch of being below or the same as the national rate,” said Magill. “The service sector remains the state’s strongest-performing sector. We’re still experiencing declines in manufacturing, however;

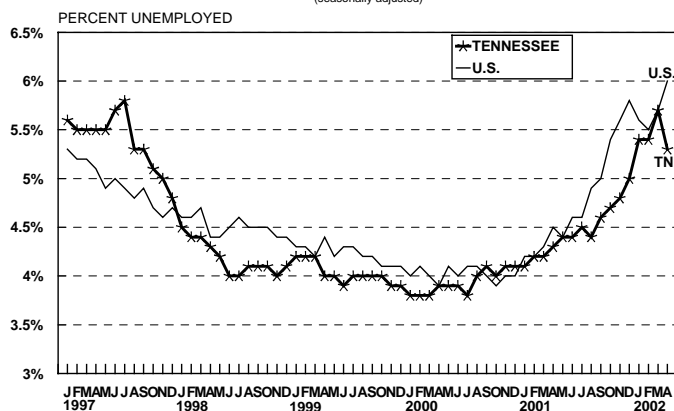
reduced manufacturing is also reflected in declines in wholesale trade and transportation.”

From April 2001 to April 2002, services added 19,100 jobs, for a growth rate of 2.5 percent. Manufacturing lost 15,700 jobs over the year, down 3.3 percent; transportation was down 5,300 jobs, a decline of 3.7 percent; and wholesale trade saw a net loss of 2,600 jobs, down 1.8 percent from a year ago.

The biggest jobs increases in the month-to-month figures were in amusement and recreation employment, up 3,100, and jobs in eating and drinking places, up 2,100.

March-to-April declines occurred in local government education, down 1,300; in construction, which lost 500; and in wholesale trade, declining 500.

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - U.S. & TENNESSEE
JANUARY 1997 - PRESENT**
(seasonally adjusted)



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

April 2002 (preliminary) - BM2001

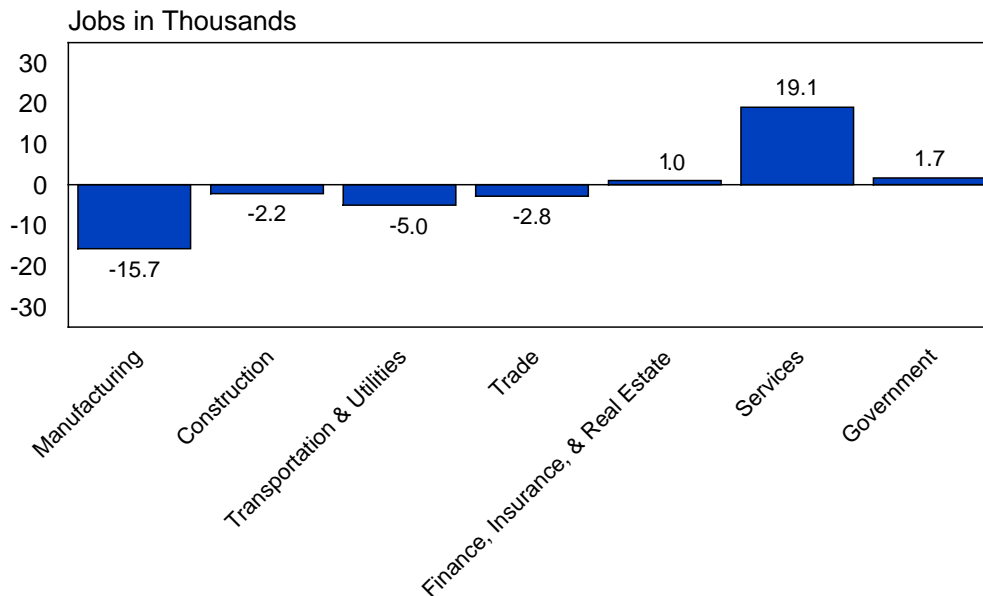
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>		Rate Change
				Apr.	Mar.	
UNITED STATES	142,570,000	133,976,000	8,594,000	6.0 %	5.7 %	0.3 %
TENNESSEE	2,890,300	2,736,600	153,700	5.3	5.7	-0.4

Not Seasonally Adjusted

UNITED STATES	141,886,000	133,740,000	8,146,000	5.7 %	6.1 %	-0.4 %
TENNESSEE	2,860,200	2,718,000	142,200	5.0	5.7	-0.7

OVER THE YEAR JOB CHANGES

By Major Industry (April 2001-2002)



County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, May 23, 2002.

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(02-059)

NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures". Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los soliciten.